BUSINESS / B1
Imports dip 31.5% in November

BIZ BUZZ / B5
Change has come to Unilab: 'COO' is now new prexy/CEO

NEWS / A2
Prosecutor Resado flip-flops; now won't bare bank records

ENTERTAINMENT / E1
Miriam on her rumored admirer Papi: I'm really into good boys

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
Wednesday, January 28, 2009 ★★ 6 sections / Vol. 24 / No. 51 P18 website: www.inquirer.net

Cement giant closes 4 plants; 1,500 affected

By Inquirer Bureaus

CEMENT GIANT HOLCIM LTD. expects temporary shutdowns of its plants in the Philippines as the global economic slowdown hits local demand for the key construction material.

"It is possible that any of (Holcim Philippines Inc.'s) plants may need to have short shutdowns due to the current economic demand," the Switzerland-based group told the Philippine Stock Exchange in a disclosure state-

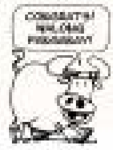
CEMENT/ A1

It's a boy, boy, boy, boy, boy, boy, girl, girl!

BELLFLOWER, California—The hospital had scheduled a Caesarean section for seven babies, but the doctors were in for a surprise.

A woman gave

IT'S A BOY/ A6





CELSO DE LOS ANGELES
A legacy of running afoul of banking regulators.

Legacy banks' double-money scheme noted 3 yrs ago

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

(First of four parts)

SPECIAL REPORT

A NUMBER OF PROVINCE-BASED financial institutions were becoming a source of worry for officials at the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) and Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp. (PDIC) as early as 2005.

Back then, Ricardo Tan recalled that he was alerted by former Prime Minister Cesar Virata—who was then president of the Bankers Association of the Philippines—to the growing proliferation of "double-your-money" schemes that were being used to attract investors into parting their money in little-known financial institutions and rural banks.

"[Virata] called me up and told me that there were people soliciting deposits all over the country, offering double-your-money [schemes] and cars as incentives," said Tan, who was at that time the president and CEO of PDIC, the government agency tasked mainly with insuring the people's deposits in failed banks.

A probe of the banks that offered these schemes led to one name: Celso de los Angeles Jr., an Ateneo de Manila University and Asian Institute of Management graduate who already had previous entanglements with regula-

LEGACY/ A8

PDIC won't use own funds, seeks ₱14-B BSP loan to pay depositors

By Michelle V. Remo

INSTEAD OF TAPPING ITS OWN funds, Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp. (PDIC) has opted to borrow ₱14 billion from the central bank to pay claims of depositors of failed rural banks of the Legacy Group.

Under the PDIC proposal, the state insurer will pay the loan over a 10-year period. PDIC said it would service the obligation using the income it generates from its investments.

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas has yet to approve the

PDIC WON'T/ A8

FG linked to contractor

Misuari seeks Palace OK to help free Red Cross workers

NUR MISUARI, FORMER CHAIR of the once-separatist Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), has offered to negotiate the release of the three International Committee of the Red Cross workers abducted two weeks ago and is seeking authorization from Malacañang to do so, his spiritual adviser told the Inquirer yesterday.

Ustadz Zain Jali said by phone Misuari wanted to make sure he did not end up like a Mindanao local official who, along with his son, was charged criminally in connection with last year's abduction of ABS-CBN broadcaster Ces Drilon and three others.

Indanan Mayor Alvarez Isnaji has denied involvement in the Drilon kidnapping, saying he on-

MISUARI/ A15

Mike A met 20 times with blacklisted firm's owner



IT'S A CRIME In her typical ballistic mode, Sen. Miriam Santiago during the Senate hearing on Tuesday demands the resignation of three Cabinet officials for their failure to act on a World Bank advisory in 2007 that it was investigating three Filipino contractors for collusive conduct in the bidding of a WB-funded road improvement project. Other senators on the panel are, from left, Panfilo Lacson, Mar Roxas, Bong Revilla and Juan Ponce Enrile.

By Michael Lim Ubac

IN 2002, PRESIDENT MACApagal-Arroyo's husband met "at least 20 times" with the owner of one of three Filipino construction firms now blacklisted by the World Bank.

This startling disclosure surfaced yesterday at the two-hour inquiry of the Senate committee on economic affairs into the blacklisting of E.C. de Luna Construction, Cavite Ideal Construction and CM Pancho Construction for purported corrupt and fraudulent practices in connection with a national road project financed by the World Bank.

The name of Jose Miguel "Mike" Arroyo was dragged into yet another corruption scandal when Eduardo de Luna, president of E.C. de Luna Construction, admitted to the committee chaired by Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago that he knew the President's husband.

Under questioning by Sen. Panfilo

FG LINKED/ A6





SHADES OF THE 'ALABANG BOYS' Richard Brodett (center, left photo), Joseph Tecson and Jorge Joseph (below) arrive at the Court of Appeals under heavy guard by PDEA agents for their habeas corpus hearing on Tuesday. (Story on Page A2.)

3 banned firms still doing gov't projects

By Christine O. Avendaño

THE THREE FIRMS THAT WERE blacklisted by the World Bank can still do business in the projects of the Philippine government, Public Works Secretary Hermogenes Ebdane said yesterday.

Ebdane told the Senate committee on economic affairs that the rules of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) provided for such an arrangement. He said the three firms were barred only from bidding on projects funded by the World Bank.

"We follow a set of rules that if they so qualify, they can be involved, unless there are some other violations," Ebdane said.

Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago, the committee chair, retorted that this would then allow the blacklisted firms to "continue with their collusion" at the DPWH, if indeed there was such a collusion.

Ebdane said CM Pancho Construction, one of the blacklisted firms, was in fact still taking part in the World Bank-funded National Roads Improvement and Management Program, known as NRIMP 1, as it had won the last project there in 2007.

Santiago later told reporters that the "biggest problem" at the DPWH was

3 BANNED/ A6

'Garci' haunts ex-Isafp chief at printing office

By Kristine L. Alave and Leila B. Salaverria

THE SPECTER OF "HELLO GARCI" haunts Nambal as retired Vice Adm. Tirso Danga takes over an office that will print ballots in the 2010 election.

President Macapagal-Arroyo's appointment last week of Danga to the National Printing Office (NPO) "does not augur well," says the National Citizens' Movement for Free Elections, or Namfrel.

"We would like to express our great concern. We are really worried about this," Henrietta De Villa, chair of the poll watchdog, told reporters yesterday.

GARCI/ A11



ICE CREAM TREAT On the eve of her birthday today, Sen. Loren Legarda throws a party for residents at the Smokey Mountain housing project in Tondo, Manila, complete with "dirty" ice cream. She also distributes 2,500 gift packs. Today, she will launch a photographic exhibit of her advocacies at Rockwell, Makati Shangri-La Hotel. (Story on Page A7.)

Second FrontPage

6/42 LUZ-VIS-MIN: 5 8 29 32 38 41 — P3,814,696.80

SUPERLOTTO 6/49: 14 15 21 36 40 46 — P73,107,662.40

Prosecutor won't bare bank record

STATE PROSECUTOR JOHN RESADO HAS REJECTED a request from the House of Representatives to partially waive his right to privacy in regard to his bank account where P1.6 million was allegedly deposited on the day Resado dismissed the drug trafficking charges against the "Alabang Boys."

[illegible]

Views on legality

[illegible]

Nothing to hide

[illegible]





COURT OF APPEALS hearing of Alabang Boys petition for writ of habeas corpus.

Appeals court hears 'Alabang Boys' plea

By Norman Bordadora

THE HEARING ON THE PETITION FOR A writ of habeas corpus filed by the "Alabang Boys" finally pushed through yesterday with the Court of Appeals wrapping up the proceedings after only 30 minutes.

[illegible]

Under threat, PDEA chief now rides bullet-proof truck

By Tina Quismundo

[illegible]

Side with right

[illegible]

Reputations destroyed

[illegible]

DepEd: All set for drug tests

By Philip C. Tubeza and Alcuin Papa

Teachers, too

Confirmatory test

Solon says no to 'sin tax' hike

Mayor on Ces Drilon kidnap: I think I'm innocent

By Norman Bordadora

Oil firms hike gasoline prices

By Amy R. Remo

Corrections

Ombudsman filed only one case this month

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

Special antigraft court



Underground river now leads 7 wonders rankings



Banco Filipino may go after BSP, says SC

Senate okays baselines bill



FG linked to contractor blacklisted by WB



MIKE ARROYO



INQUIRY INTO A SCANDAL

All guilty

Appointments book

Dates and places

Relevance



LAMBERTO LEE Jr.

Where's the proof?

Ms Arroyo's confidence

3 banned firms still doing government projects

'Very defective'

'Jumping the gun'



EBDANE



GUTIERREZ



TEVES

5-minute interview

Apology

Loren holds birthday 'rally' in Smokey Mountain

J.A. Lucas; 79

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT of AGRARIAN REFORM

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
JANITORIAL SERVICES

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT of AGRARIAN REFORM

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
SECURITY SERVICES

Former finance execs back BSP probe of rogue banks

House to probe collapse of Legacy's rural banks

LEGACY TIMELINE

Legacy banks' double-money scheme noted 3 years ago

Battery of lawyers

Fictitious deposits

Taken over by PDIC

FAST FACTS

Who's Celso de los Angeles Jr.?

Amazing

PDIC won't use own funds, seeks P14-B BSP loan to pay depositors

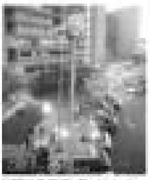
P73.5-B debts to BSP

It's a boy, boy, boy, boy, boy, boy, girl, girl!

Missing No. 8

'Truly a blessing'

World's 1st octuplet birth



MEDIA EVENT The birth of the octuplets gets full coverage from the US media, TV news vans, among many other vehicles from media outlets, line the hospital parking lot on Monday.

Cement giant closes 4 plants; 1,500 affected

[illegible]

GMA to talk on RP resiliency in Davos forum

[illegible]

'Normal occurrence'

[illegible]

Calabarzon

[illegible]

Baguio ecozone

[illegible]

Central Visayas

[illegible]

Service caravan/credit windows

[illegible]

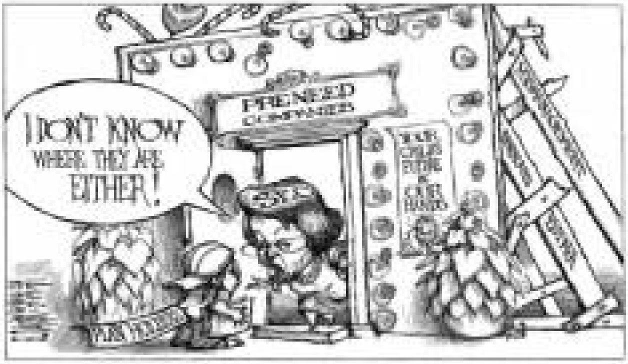
Low coconut demand

[illegible]

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
OPINION

Dangerous delusion

EDITORIAL



The LP emperor strikes back

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

'We, the People'

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

Pendulum swing at Davos

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila



Hard sell

PINOY KASI

Michael L. Tan



'Ridiculous and confused'

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David



Images and names from the Spanish conquest

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo



Why GMA's anointed will win in the 2010 elections

LETTERS



TURNING THE TABLES:

Alabang Boys release order story unbelievable

Illegal logging, mining worsen climate impact

Light in end of tunnel

Across the NATION
Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

Traders in cement scam go missing



JOLO MARKET

BAGABAG, NUEVA VIZCAYA—THE OWNERS OF a company linked to a P23-million cement scam here have gone missing and have closed their businesses, raising panic among their creditors in Northern Luzon.

No trace

Sheriffs

Floods, landslides kill 5 in 2 provinces

P30M sought for sugar workers

INQUIRER Northern Luzon

Build the museum, and they will come

By Elizabeth Lolarga

The new museum will help Baguio people realize they have a good beginning





ALBERT



Misuari seeks Palace OK to help free Red Cross workers



MISUARI

Captives call again

Unconditional release

No word on teachers

'Garci' haunts ex-Isafp chief



HELLO, ex-Isafp chief Teo Bangit

Biometrics system

To formalize complaint

Optical scans

Automated polling budget

Early voting

SPORTS

Harbour in 6th finals

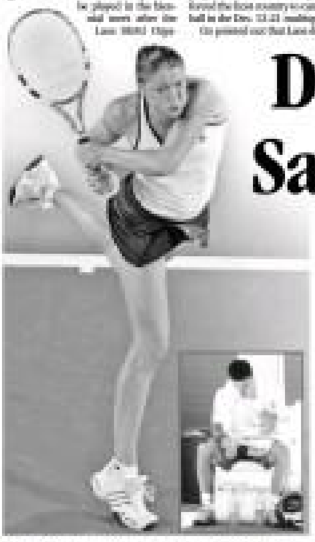
Completes sweep of Hapee; Bacchus takes 2-1 edge



Aces, Texters start championship showdown today

Basketball stricken off SEAG roster—again

Djokovic quits; Safina advances



The ballgame's human factor

HEART, SOUL, SPORTS



Tommy Manotoc

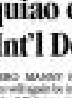
All set for Milo Marathon

Paragua keeps top spot

Pacquiao entries among SJC Int'l Derby leaders

Two coaches who know each other well

IN HUDDLE



Beth Celis

SPORTSWATCH

Air21 name change OK'd

Arellano nears three-peat




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Raise your lifestyle to the NTH POWER.
MAKATI CBD
FULLY FURNISHED UNITS
12,000
NO DOWN PAYMENT
MEGAWORLD CORPORATION

A plus METRO
Editor: Abelardo S. Ulanday

DID YOU KNOW

THE CHURCH that would later become the Manila Cathedral was established in 1571 by Juan de Vivero, the same priest who baptized Manila's Rajah Matanda. Domingo Salazar became the first vicar general and the first ecclesiastical judge of Manila.

Cabbie accused of robbing Fil-Am arrested

Victim tags driver in lineup as suspect denies allegation

By Nancy C. Carvajal

THE POLICE ARRESTED ON Monday night the taxi driver who allegedly robbed a Filipino-American tourist of $10,000 in cash and valuables.

Beware of fake LPG tank safety inspectors

By DJ Yap

A NONGOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION advocating safety in the home and workplace yesterday warned the public about unscrupulous individuals using its name in dubious activities, including house-to-house visits.

Leviste assigned prison number, undergoes tests

By Marlon Ramos

Former Batangas Gov. Jose Antonio Leviste, who was found guilty of killing his longtime aide Rafael de las Alas, was assigned a prison number yesterday, a day after his arrival at the New Bilibid Prison (NBP) in Muntinlupa City.

2 cops who found wallet return it to elated owner

Honest act changes woman's view of police



FEEDING TIME

MetroBriefs

Life term, P1-M fine

New ambulances

Retired sergeant held

Sera exhibit

Courses offered

Con artist nabbed, admits duping hundreds of OFWs

SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

PHILIPPINE RECLAMATION AUTHORITY

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID



PROBLEMA: FINANCIAL CRISIS

SOLUSYON : PAGBABAWAS NG TAO

Wala na bang maaaring gawing iba?

Ang Tugon ng

People Management Association of the Philippines (PMAP):

"Itaguyod ang diwa ng Pilipino sa pagharap sa mga hamon ng ating panahon. Malasakit... Bayanihan... Pananagutan."

- ★ Share and promote best practices in Pinoy people management, especially during hard times.
- ★ Certify companies practicing sound people management.
- ★ Recognize SMEs practicing good people management.
- ★ Promote employee-focused corporate social responsibility programs.
- ★ Promote international labor standards.
- ★ Promote mediation as an alternative conflict-resolution mode.
- ★ Enhance employability of graduates/ young people to help solve mismatch problem.



2009 PMAP Officers and Board of Directors

Samahan Kami Sa Aming Layunin!

People Management Association of the Philippines

670 Lee St., Addition Hills, Mandaluyong City
Trunkline: 726-1532 / Fax: 726-1532 loc. 311
E-mail: pmap@pmap.org.ph
Website: www.pmap.org.ph

The WORLD

WORLDBRIEFS

Israeli killed in Gaza clash

'No Palestine state bad for Israel'

Blagojevich's impeachment trial starts

Argentina declares farm emergency

Raps filed in Travolta extort plot

Fallen mega-pastor apologizes

Ex-pastor gets 5 years in jail

Surrounded by pals? It's in the genes

Hundreds of thousands more idled in recession

NEW YORK—A TIDAL wave of layoffs washed across the world on Monday and Tuesday, sending hundreds of thousands of workers into joblessness as the pain of the global recession worsened.



Iceland coalition gov't collapses



Tokyo, Washington focus on stimulus packages

IN THIS ISSUE

BUSINESS



Imports dipped 31.5% in Nov.

Trade figure said to reflect drop in consumer demand worldwide

THE COUNTRY'S IMports plunged 31.5 percent year-on-year to $3.4 billion in November 2008, the government yesterday said amid an electronics demand meltdown that has led to thousands of job losses.

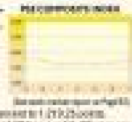
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CURRENCIES



STOCK MARKET

Shares close higher



[illegible]

Most OFWs seen to keep jobs despite global crisis

[illegible]

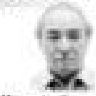
Banks expected to contain rise in bad loans this year

[illegible]

Raise capital, IC directs 35 firms

Preneed

QUESTIONS OF POLICIES



Metrobank trains sights on China, seeks license

By Doris C. Dumlao

BANKING GIANT METROPOLITAN BANK and Trust Co. is seeking the approval of Chinese banking regulators to set up a wholly owned subsidiary in one of the world's fastest growing economies.

The setting up of a new company in China is in line with the bank's thrust to increase and diversify overseas revenues given the global economic downturn, said Metrobank chair Antonio Abacan Jr.

"Before this worldwide problem, our tendency really is to expand the business. But with the problems now in Hong Kong, Japan and Taiwan, the trend and better remittance business is slowing. Filipinos are losing jobs overseas," Abacan said in a recent interview with the Inquirer.

"We see good opportunity in China. That's why we are developing that business for China," he added.

Metrobank has a branch in Shanghai and a representative office in Beijing. But it wants to establish a full subsidiary that can put up branches all across the mainland.

To date, only Allied Bank Corp., which will soon merge with Philippine National Bank, can put up branches in China.

A foreign bank is usually required to put up a minimum capital of 1 billion yuan (P6 billion) to acquire a license to expand across mainland China.

Metrobank has 37 overseas branches, subsidiaries and representative offices in 21 countries.

RCBC to raise capital by ₱4B

THE YUCHENGCO-LED RIZAL COMMERCIAL Banking Corp. plans to raise as much as P4 billion from the issuance of subordinated debt notes qualifying as tier 2 or supplementary capital.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange yesterday, RCBC spokesperson Elbert Zosa said the bank's board of directors had approved the proposed offer.

The issuance shall have a 10-year tenor and the proceeds are expected to be used to fund RCBC's expansion this year.

In March 2007, the bank raised P5.6 billion in capital through a follow-on stock offering.

At the same time, RCBC's board also appointed a 14-year veteran in microfinance, Joselyn Pineda, as senior vice president and at the same time president of Merchants Savings and Loan Association.

RCBC bought the thrift bank last year from Pioneer Capital Corp. and the heirs of the late Luis Mangaya for about P620 million.

Merchants Bank, which has 21 branches nationwide, was acquired by RCBC as part of the strategy to increase its branch network, especially within Metro Manila.

RCBC's vision is to grow both organically and through acquisitions. *Doris C. Dumlao*

Philippine Stock Exchange

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[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Forex

Country	Unit	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]



'COO' takes the helm

BIZ BUZZ

By the staff

Betting on SMC tender

Goodness no more

Philamlife bidding on track

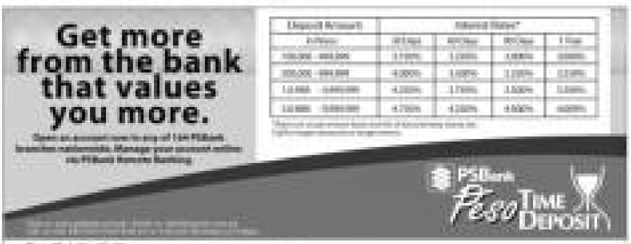
Local firms remain confident of lenders' support, survey shows

Loan process seen to become an ordeal

Subic Freeport 2008 exports hit $977.8M

Shares close higher

Smart gets 30% of Piltel revenue





RP welcomes Korea's top oil brand



Next generation

Mitsubishi Lancer 2.0 EX GT-A: plus and minus

ON THE ROAD











Putting the car before . . .

Brotherhood

Volatility of prices

Toyota sees 2009 global output down 20 %—paper

Likely to fall

Getting things right



MONTERO dashboard

MOTORING

E-mail: pi_motoring@inquirer.com.ph
Editor: Cesar D. Mangawang



EMBASSADORS of the marques' lineup of wheels

Putting the car before the ox, auto clubs push big in '09

By Nora B. Salazar
Contributor

IF CHINESE ASTROLOGY could adopt another animal, the car clubs would lobby for their automobile. Car clubs, a veritable gold mine in terms of auto updates, service and parts support, are composed of car owners loyal and devoted to a particular brand or model. Naturally, they become the brand's "ambassadors"—knowledgeable of every nook and cranny of the model and are that faithful to the brand that members of some car clubs make it a point to trade cars and parts only to fellow members, ensuring that the beloved iron stays in the group to be properly taken care of.

Inquirer Motoring sought out local car clubs—a normally low-key bunch of motorists—and asked them what was up and about with their respective clubs, now that the hardworking Ox had just entered the scene.

Rico Ledesma, president of the Mercedes-Benz Club Philippines, and Joey L. Ordoñez, president of Mitsulancerph (MLPH) Inc., were among the first to respond.

Ordoñez, who described the club as the premiere Lancer enthusiast club of the Philippines, proudly declared that the club would be turning 5 this April.

"Joining the club has taught me how to maintain my 1993 Lancer EL in good running condition. I also found an expert Lancer mechanic, and shops where to buy OEM and quality Japanese replacement parts with big discounts. Most of all, I found new friends," Ordoñez joined MLPH in 2006 and was elected club president just last December.

Rico Ledesma, Mercedes-Benz Club Philippines president, and his group offers "to the local Mercedes-Benz enthusiast an outlet from which they can collectively express their fascination and passion for the oldest car manufacturer in the world."

Though the club is a relative newcomer in relation to the brand (the club was formed in 2001), it has already been grow



MITSULANCERPH'S show car gets its groove at a competition.



'BENZ buddies' at Glen McKinley

Getting things right

MY DRIFT
Andre Palma



AUTOMOTIVE MANUFACTURERS are sometimes guilty of being detached from reality. One cannot blame them. No matter how many billions one spends on market research, it is quite impossible to forecast how a product will be received by the buying public. Statistical analysis can only go so far.

One of the few manufacturers that seem to have been getting things right recently is Mitsubishi Motors. After a few years of seemingly losing the plot with lackluster and half-baked releases, it is undoubtedly on a roll of sorts. The local release of the current Strada signaled the beginning of this turnaround. It is hard to find fault with the new Lancer either which is undoubtedly a strong expression of change.

Now the Montero Sport comes into the picture, a model that strives to confirm Mitsubishi Motors' return to form. The big question is if this rounded Strada derivative delivers on what the market demands: a simple product that exudes value, utility and a certain amount of flair.

Obvious design genetics

Looks-wise, this is a vehicle that shares obvious design genetics with the Strada pick-up. All the styling cues from the front fender to the A-pillar are familiar. This is where the similarities end though, with a square-cut rear door forming the cargo space all the way to the tailgate. Discussions with the marketing units at the plant confirm what your eyes are hinting at: The Montero Sport is actually longer than the Strada, with a ladder frame chassis and body that are unique for the model.

The currently available engine is the diesel we've all grown accustomed to. The 2.5-liter, common-rail, di-

rect-injection turbo produces to the tune of around 160 hp and 340 Nm of torque. Power comes on very early, with pull on at full-swing at a shade over 2,000 rpm. Things begin to sputter out before 4,000 rpm, but this is expected from an engine designed for hauling and towing things—not one that was meant to launch the vehicle into the stratosphere.

The question must be asked why the 3.2-liter 4D56 CRDi turbo is not available for this model. If performance of a Strada equipped with the smaller engine is anything to go by the result should be a peppier, livelier drive. Go bug your local Mitsubishi salesperson on this one.

True nature

Driving the new Montero Sport is what really betrays its true nature. There are no pretensions that this is a refined, sporty, touring vehicle. The inclusive feel of the steering is actually quite reassuring, as it is devoid of the dull sense of most electronically assisted steering configurations these days. One feels the road underneath the front tires and that is a good thing, even if the Montero does this in a very truck-like manner.

Comfort is another plus factor of this vehicle. Despite being developed from a pick-up truck, the Montero rides on coil springs on all four corners. Now, this is not something groundbreaking by any book, as even its main competition, the Toyota Fortuner,

GETTING B7



MITSUBISHI Montero is a model that strives to confirm Mitsubishi Motors' return to form.

Editor Thelma Sioson San Juan Coordinating Editor Lia B. Bernardo

LIFESTYLE Parenting



They share tips and techniques

DR. PATRICIA Agunod Chung with her younger daughter

Homework: How parents survive it now—or do they?

By Cathy S. Babao-Guballa

"TRAIN UP A CHILD IN the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it..."

Highly visual



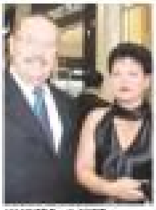
JOYCE Santos helps her sons with their homework.

HOMEWORK C2





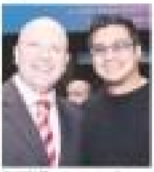




Dance show marks launch of 8 luxury Swiss watch brands







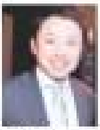
WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

Maurice Arcache













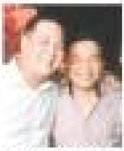


Ballroom dance event



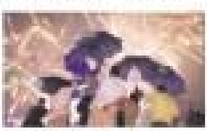








Taguig Global Countdown









Homework: How parents survive it now–or do they?



LARCY Nicolas de Castro with her three daughters

Stress-busters

Right choices for a healthy new year



Let's not be too quick to accept 'hand-me-downs'

THE CONSUMER
Linda B. Bolido

The Philippines may become a dumping place of toys and other products for children that didn't pass stringent environmental tests abroad

Look beyond price

Double standards!



A Retrospective immortalized through art, secured by Pioneer





'BAON' RECIPE

Baguette pizza

By Norma Chikiamco
Contributor

PIZZA SEEMS TO BE EVERYONE'S favorite snack. You can make your own pizza without the crust by using baguettes—long, thin, crusty French bread. Your child will love bringing to school his own homemade pizza. Be sure to customize it with your child's favorite toppings.

Baguette Pizza
Makes 4 pieces
2 mini baguettes
¼ c olive oil
1 c pizza sauce
1 tbsp Italian seasoning
1 ½ c grated Mozzarella cheese

Suggested toppings:
1 c sliced mushrooms
100-200 g pepperoni or salami
½-1 c pineapple tidbits, well-drained
½ cup chopped green bell pepper

Preheat oven to 350°F (175°C).

Slice each baguette lengthwise. You should have four pieces. Brush the surface of each sliced baguette with olive oil. Spoon pizza sauce over the olive oil. Sprinkle with Italian seasoning. Distribute the Mozzarella cheese evenly among the four sliced baguettes.

Top with desired toppings. Bake in oven until cheese melts and baguette is crisp, about 10 to 15 minutes. Or toast or broil in a toaster oven.

Wrap carefully in aluminum foil before putting into lunch boxes.

Tips

- Mini baguettes are available in the bread section of supermarkets and deli shops.
- You can also use regular (long) baguettes. Cut horizontally in the middle before slicing lengthwise.
- Mushrooms, pepperoni, salami, pineapple tidbits and green pepper are some of the most popular pizza toppings. Don't be afraid to be adventurous and top the pizza instead with whatever your child prefers: sausage, ham, cooked chicken, tuna, etc.
- If desired, put toppings on the baguette before adding the cheese.



Welcoming babies in the Year of the Ox



SNUGGLING buddies for your little one

BABIES BORN IN THE YEAR OF the Ox are said to be creative and intelligent. They are also known to be competitive and natural leaders just like Aristotle, Napoleon, Walt Disney and Charlie Chaplin.

If you're welcoming a newborn in the Year of the Ox, add some luck and charm to your baby's nursery with adorable cow accessories from the Moo Collection from Baby Company.

Leading the pack is a plush cow that plays a sweet lullaby. There's also a cow-inspired Moses basket and a 2-in-1 cradle and swing to give baby a good night's sleep. Other fun and functional nursery essentials—baby pillows, a musical mobile, and a lounge chair—all with cow designs.

Baby Company also has a herd of plush cow-character toys to cheer baby throughout the year ahead. Moms, on the other hand, will have no let-up spend your ahead taking care of their little ones with feeding and nursing products from Pigeon and diapers from Prokids.

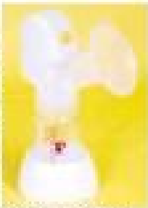
The New Year also signals the start of Baby Company's Star Babies 2009 contest. Babies up to 18 months old have a chance to shine, and win exciting prizes. Every P1,000 purchase up to Dec. 31 (which must include at least P500 worth of Pigeon and Prokids items) entitles one to register and join the contest. Registrants must be holders of SM Advantage, Prestige or BDO Rewards cards.

There will be three winners per quarter (one winner each from the Metro Manila, Luzon, and Visayas areas), who will each be entitled to SM Gift Certificates, Pigeon and Prokids items and a year-long Baby Magazine subscription. They also have a chance to be on the cover of Baby Magazine and to be the next image model of Baby Company.

Baby Company is in all SM Department Stores and specialty stores at The Podium and Power Plant Mall.



PLUSH cows and a duck in a musical mobile will calm your baby with a gentle lullaby.



PORTABLE and lightweight breast pump from Pigeon



MOSES Basket from Baby Company's Moo Collection includes a cow-inspired pillow and comforter.



PIGEON'S MagMag All-in-One Set. Includes nipple, spout and straw cup tops to keep up with baby's developing drinking habits.

LIFESTYLE *Home & Entertaining*



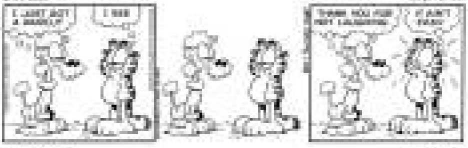


Couple makes Asian aesthetics work for modern lifestyle

GETTING TO KNOW THE ONE



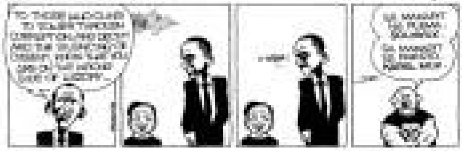
GARFIELD
By Jim Davis



LIPIN



PUGAD BABOY



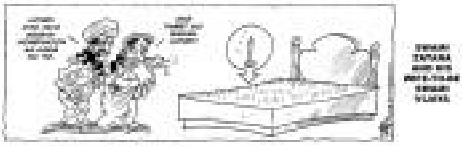
DICK TRACY





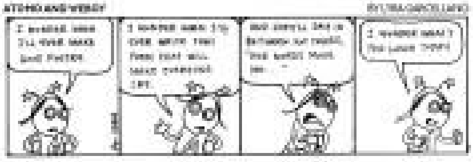
JAMES BOND

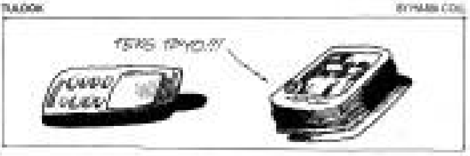




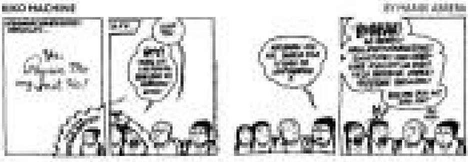
BABY BLUES
By Jerry Scott





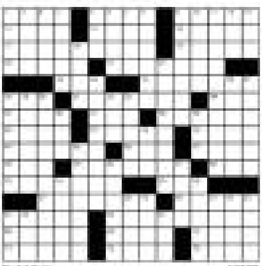


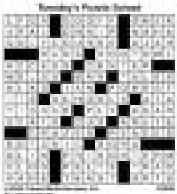
KIKO MACHINE





DAILY CROSSWORD





HOROSCOPE

By Francis Drake

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku — By Dave Green

	7	3	5	6	4			
	4		1			3		
9				7			6	
1				8			9	
6	8	2	3	9			7	
	9	4	2				5	
							3	
							4	
				4	8	5	2	9

Difficulty Level ★★★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Answer to previous puzzle

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
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[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]



MASTER bedroom is done in shades of white, beige and brown.



GUEST ROOM



STREAMLINED and neutral-colored furniture pieces designed by Budji Layug go well with the house's semi-outdoor setup.

Couple makes Asian aesthetics work for modern lifestyle



RED dining room wall, with a picture window featuring a bas-relief, offers rare splash of color.



SITTING area composed of weather-resistant furniture pieces straddles the indoor and outdoor areas of the house.

It's a smart use of vast space—from stand-alone dining room to garden



A QUIET corner beside the guest house leads to a Jacuzzi.



THE COUPLE turned the adjacent lot into a lush tropical garden featuring a kidney-shaped swimming pool with four waterfalls.

LIFESTYLE Home/Entertaining



BARCELONA daybed



Home finds that reflect one's sense of style



PHILIPPE accent chair



EROS chair







MILONGA means a place or an event where tango is danced. People who frequently go to milongas are called milongueros or tangueros.

Tango nights for the ballroom-crazy

ENTERTAINMENT

INSIDE

Fan's prayer: Group hug at Eraserheads reunion concert /E6



Penn: We only portray people



Miriam says she's just really 'into good boys'

Could this be bad news for latest rumored admirer Willie Revillame?



"NO FORMAL offer yet," she says.

CHEER FACTOR

Toast of India

SM movietime

CINEMA



METRO MANILA
RESERVED SEATS NOW AVAILABLE

IMAX	THE PODIUM	CINEMA 1
FLY ME TO THE MOON	AUSTRALIA	BEDTIME STORIES
SEA MONSTER	UNDERWORLD: RISE OF THE LYCANS	

LUZON

VISAYAS - MINDANAO

CINEMA ACCESS: 635-5555

MOVIEWORLD

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMA MOVIE GUIDE

GALLERIA

1 UNDERWORLD 3
2 AUSTRALIA
3 SAW 5
4 BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA
5 STATUS: SINGLE
6 INKHEART
7 BUTAS
8 IndieCine: RAWETS
9 YES MAN
10 LOVE ME AGAIN

ERMITA

1 BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA
2 INKHEART
3 AUSTRALIA
4 SAW 5
5 STATUS: SINGLE
6 UNDERWORLD 3
7 YES MAN
8 BUTAS
9 LOVE ME AGAIN

METRO EAST

1 SAW 5
2 AUSTRALIA
3 BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA
4 STATUS: SINGLE
5 INKHEART
6 UNDERWORLD 3
7 YES MAN
8 LOVE ME AGAIN

NOVALICHES

1 STATUS: SINGLE
2 BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA
3 SAW 5
4 UNDERWORLD 3

PIONEER

1 AUSTRALIA
2 BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA
3 INKHEART
4 STATUS: SINGLE



STA. ROSA

1 AUSTRALIA
2 BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA
3 UNDERWORLD 3
4 STATUS: SINGLE
5 SAW 5

LIPA

1 STATUS: SINGLE
2 BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA
3 LOVE ME AGAIN
4 TRANSPORTER 3

DASMARIÑAS

1 BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA
2 AUSTRALIA
3 STATUS: SINGLE
4 SAW 5
5 UNDERWORLD 3

IMUS

1 AUSTRALIA
2 BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA
3 STATUS: SINGLE
4 UNDERWORLD 3
5 SAW 5

ANGELES

1 BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA
2 STATUS: SINGLE
3 AUSTRALIA
4 UNDERWORLD 3

STARMILLS

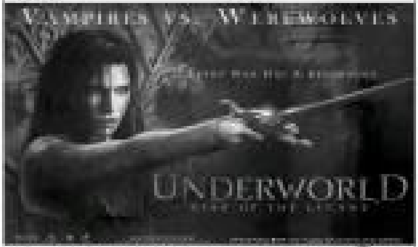
1 BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA
2 STATUS: SINGLE
3 LOVE ME AGAIN
4 AUSTRALIA
5 SAW 5
6 UNDERWORLD 3

BACOLOD

1 BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA
2 THE CURIOUS CASE of BENJAMIN BUTTON
3 STATUS: SINGLE
4 INKHEART
5 TRANSPORTER 3
6 BUTAS

ILOILO

1 BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA
2 AUSTRALIA
3 STATUS: SINGLE
4 INKHEART
5 TRANSPORTER 3
6 BUTAS



NOW SHOWING at MOVIEWORLD

Winners, 15th SAG Awards

MOVIES: CAST, "Slumdog Millionaire"; Actor (lead role), Sean Penn, "Milk"; Actress (leading role), Meryl Streep, "Doubt"; Supporting Actor, Heath Ledger, "The Dark Knight"; Supporting Actress, Kate Winslet, "The Reader"; Stunt Ensemble, "The Dark Knight."

Television: Drama Series Cast, "Mad Men"; Actor (drama series), Hugh Laurie, "House"; Actress (drama series), Sally Field, "Brothers & Sisters"; Comedy Series Cast, "30 Rock"; Actor (comedy series), Alec Baldwin, "30 Rock"; Actress (comedy series), Tina Fey "30 Rock"; Actor (movie or miniseries), Paul Giamatti, "John Adams"; Actress (movie or miniseries), Laura Linney, "John Adams"; Stunt Ensemble, "Heroes."

Life Achievement: James Earl Jones.

Penn: We only…

From page

"Slumdog," a low-budgeted film about a poor boy who rises from squalor on the streets of Mumbai to find love, fame and fortune as a champion on India's version of "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire."

Ledger's Supporting Actor prize for his unstoppable reinvention of fearsome comedic Joker put the late actor a step closer to becoming just the second performer to win a posthumous Academy Award. The first was Peter Finch, for 1976's "Network." The award was accepted by "The Dark Knight" co-star Gary Oldman.

Winslet offered a tribute to the late Anthony Minghella and Sydney Pollack, both producers on "The Reader."

"30 Rock" swept the TV Comedy honors, Tina Fey and Alec Baldwin taking the individual acting prizes and the show winning the Ensemble Cast award.

Hugh Laurie won his second straight SAG prize for Best Actor in a TV Drama for "House." AP

Opening Today



Namets

[illegible]









Butas

[illegible]

Status: Single

[illegible]

Beverly Hills Chihuahua

[illegible]



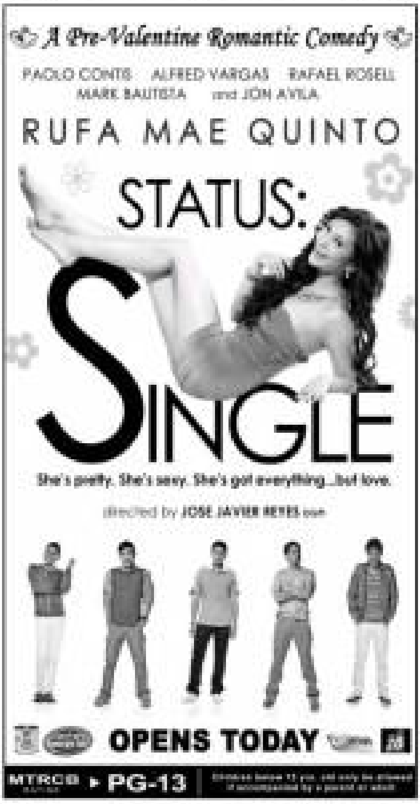


Saw IV

[illegible]

Inkheart

[illegible]





Australia

[illegible]



Dulce, Kundirana in benefit concerts

SHOW TIME

Kundirana with Ogie

Maybe…

Tolerance level



AT THE PRESS CON Sporting shades that keep everyone guessing (won't they even glance at one another?): Ely Buendia, Buddy Zabala, Marcus Adoro, Raimund Marasigan.

Maybe there'll be a group hug at their 2nd reunion

By Francis T.J. Ochoa

Drummer says 'Heads was 'never that kind of a band'

Stage 'too big'

Breakup rumors traced to Facebook

By the Inquirer and INQUIRER.net Entertainment staff





Name game

Sexually ambiguous

Truth in advertising!

Top of the talk shows

RUSHES

CLICK!



Matt returns to 'Kyle XY'